

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's Office Action of September 17, 2007 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is amended to clarify that the system includes a series of printheads for printing the layers, that the system is configured to enable each printhead initially configured to print at least part of a respective layer to be dynamically reconfigured to print at least part of a another layer, and that if at least one printhead fails whilst printing its respective layer, each subsequent printhead is dynamically reconfigured to complete the printing of at least part of the layer preceding its respective layer. Support for these amendments can be found at page 36, line 2-page 41, line 23 of the present specification; and

dependent claims 2-8, 11, 12 and 17-21 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application.

35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-8, 11, 12 and 17-21 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by any one or more of previously cited Penn, Klaus and O'Connor in view of newly cited Hermanson et al. (US 5,581,284), because none of Penn, Klaus and O'Connor disclose dynamic reconfiguration of printheads, as admitted by the Examiner, and because Hermanson merely discloses a system in which if nozzles in one color printbar fail to eject drops then nozzles from printbars of different colors are used to substitute for the failed drops (see col. 2, lines 15-28), which does not teach or suggest the dynamic reconfiguration of each subsequent printhead as recited in amended independent claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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